THE ADDRESS TO THE KING.

The Humble Representation of the Lords and Commissioners of Shires and Burroughs of the Kingdom of Scotland, *Undersubscribers, and Members of this Current Parliament now Adjourned till the Eighth of* October *next.*

NOthing save the great and general Surprise of this long distressed and at present unsettled Kingdom, upon the late Adjournment of Your most *Loyal Parliament* for so long a time, and in so critical a season, with the deep Concern of Your Royal Interest therein, could possibly have induced us to this so necessary a Petition. But the visible Consternation and Discouragement of thousands of Your good Subjects, delayed in the Relief and Comfort which at this time they assuredly expected, with the Advantages that We apprehend Your Majesties Enemies, both within and without the Kingdom, may think to reap by such an Interruption, being our only Motives, We cannot, We dare not be silent. And therefore to prevent these evil Consequences, We in the first place most Solemnly Protest and Declare, in the Presence of God and Men, Our constant and inviolable Fidelity and Adherence to Your Majesties Royal Title, Right and Interest, so frankly and chearfully recognosced by Us in this Current Parliament, wishing and praying for nothing more under the Sun than Your long and prosperous Reign, as that wherein the Security of all our Lives and Liberties, and also of our Holy Religion, more dear to Us than both, is infallibly included. It was the persuation we had of the Justice, as well as well as the Necessity, of Your Majesties Heroic Undertaking for the Delivery of these Kingdoms, with the Conviction of the Divine Confirmation that appeared in its glorious Success, that moved most, if not all of Us, to endeavour and concur most heartily in the late Meeting of Estates, for the Advancement and Establishment of Your Majesty upon the Throne, when some discovered their Disaffection, and were too open Retarders and Obstructers of that good Design: And it is from the same true Affection and Zeal, that we do now most heartily make the above mentioned Protestation, to obviate all the Misconstructions Your Enemies may make in this Juncture.

Nor are we less assured of Your Majesties most sincere and gracious Intentions, to perform for Us to the utmost, all that the Estates of the Kingdom have either demanded, or represented as necessary and expedient for securing

securing the Protestant Religion, restoring their Laws and Liberties, and redressing of their Grievances, according to Your Majesties Declaration for this Kingdom. Neither can it be imagined, that so wise and just a King as Your Majesty, will ever be perswaded, that so Loyal a Parliament as this, can be induced either to wish or design any Prejudice to, or Diminution of Your true Interest and Prerogative; but such as have slavishly served and flattered Arbitrary Power and Tyranny, will be always studying for their own sinister Ends, to state a separate Interest betwixt King and People, a Practice which we are confident your Majesty abhors.

But that we may clear our selves upon this present occasion to Your Majesties full satisfaction, and refuting of all Misrepresentations we can incur on any hand, we shall briefly rehearse to Your Majesty, the Votes pass'd in this present Parliament, to which the Royal Assent is not given, with such short Reflections, as we hope may tend to the better Vindication of all concern'd.

The First Act upon which the Vote of Parliament has pass'd, is that, Declaring the Priviledge of the Estates of Parliament *to Nominate and Appoint Committees*, as they shall think fit; and excluding therefrom the Officers of State, unless they be chosen: And omitting what the Parliament hath already represented to Your Majesty as reasons of their Vote, it is humbly conceived, that this Act is exactly framed to the extent of that Grievance, which together with the rest, is desired in the *Instrument of Government*, to be redressed unto us in Parliament.

The Second was an Act *Abrogating* the Act of Parliament 1669. asserting *the King's Supremacy* over all Persons, and in all Causes Ecclesiastical; and this Act is so exactly conform to the Second Article of the abovementioned Grievances; and the foresaid Act of Supremacy in it self is so dangerous to the Protestant Religion, as well as inconsistent with the Establishment of any Church-Government, that we doubt not Your Majesty will ever approve all that voted to it.

The Third, is an Act anent *Persons not to be employed in publick Trusts*; and all the Ruins and Destresses of this Kingdom, have so certainly flowed fro the Persons therein noted, especially, such as by their contriving of, and concurring in the Dispensing Power, have thereby eminently indangered our Religion, and overturned all the Fences of our Liberties and Properties (which we have good ground to believe the Parliament would have extended but to few Persons) And Your Majesty in Your Declaration, hath so justly charged the same upon evil and wicked Counsellors (the only Persons pointed at in this Act) that We are perswaded that You will find it absolutly necessary for attaining all the Ends of Your Majesties glorious undertakin for our Relief.

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The Fourth is an Act concerning the *Nomination of the ordinary Lords of Session*, and the *Election of the President*, To wit, that in a total Vacation they be tryed, and admitted or rejected by Parliament, and in a particular Vacation they be tryed and admitted, or rejected by the other Lords: And that the President be chooſen by the Lords themſelves, conform to our old Practique and expreſs Statute. And this Act is ſo agreeable to Practique Laws and Acts of Parliament, and ſo neceſſar for the true and equal adminiſtration of Juſtice (the great ſecurity of all Kingdoms) that Your Majeſty will unqueſtionably approve it.

The Fifth and laſt is an Act Ordaining the *Presbyterian Miniſters yet alive*, who were thruſt out ſince the First of *January* 1661, for not Conforming to Prelacy, and not complying with the Courſes of the Time, to be *reſtored*. And this Act is in it ſelf ſo juſt and ſo conſequential from the Claim of Right, and agreeable to Your Majeſties Declaration, that leſs in common Equity could not be done. And here Your Majeſty may be pleaſed to conſider, That tho Prelacy be now by Law aboliſhed, yet theſe few Miniſters not exceeding Sixty (tho reſtored, as they are not, for want of the Royal Aſſent to the foreſaid Act, would be all the Presbyterian Miniſters legally eſtabliſhed and provided for in *Scotland*.

It is not unknown to Your Majeſty what have been the ſad Confuſions and Diſorders of this diſtreſſed Country under Prelacy, and for want of its ancient Presbyterian Government; and now the whole *Weſt*, , and many other Parts of *Scotland*, are at preſent deſolate and deſtitute, having only Miniſters called by the People upon the late Liberty, without any Benefice or Living, or convenient place to Preach in. It is alſo certain, that there are many Hundreds of foreſaulted and fined Perſons who are yet waiting to be reſtored and refounded, according to the Claim of Right, and Your Majeſties gracious Inſtructions thereanent.

It is true, the laſt Thing propoſed by Your Majeſties Commiſſioner in Parliament, was a Supply of Money for Maintenance of the Forces ſo neceſſary for our preſent Defence; and We ſhould have proven our ſelves ungrateful to Your Majeſty, and falſe to our own Intereſt and Security, if We had abſolutely refuſed it: but there being a ſufficient and certain Fond to maintain all the Forces, and ſupport all other incident Charges of the Government for ſome Months; all that we demanded was, That ſome things viſibly neceſſar for Satisfaction of the Country, and the better enabling and and diſpoſing them to pay the ſaid Supply, might be firſt expeded. We are confident that the Vote of Parliament, which was only for a ſhort Delay, will not give your Majeſty the leaſt ground of Offence.

And now having preſumed to lay theſe Things before Your Majeſty with all humble Submiſſion, purely out of Duty for preventing the evil Conſtructions of Your Majeſties Enemies, and for our own juſt Vindication;

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We humbly beſeech Your Sacred Majeſty graciouſly to conſider what is here repreſented; and in Proſecution of Your Majeſties Acceptance of the Claim of Right, and Your Declaration emitted for this Kingdom, to take ſuch Courſes as You in Your Royal Wiſdom ſhall think fit, for Paſſing the foreſaid Acts of Parliament, and redreſſing all our other Grievances. And We Your Majeſties moſt humble Petitioners and faithful Subjects, ſhall, as in Duty bound, ever Pray for Your long and proſperous Reign over Us.

FINIS.